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29.11.37

M.R.O. 1—82 4/38—25-11-38

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Collective Records DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 667 Press Mis.

Dated 22 8 18 37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 17th August 1858.

No. 122. Read the following letter from Captain JOHN CAMPBELL, 7th Light Cavalary, Executive Engineer Jackatallah; to Captain ROBERTS, Military Secretary to the Right Honorable the Governor dated 26th July 1858.

SIR,

I have the pleasure in accordance with the kind permission of the Right Honorable the Governor to enclose for his Lordships perusal my reasons for seeking to be placed immediately under the Central Office of Public Works as a *special* Executive Engineer. This appointment which is strictly in terms of the new regulations affords the only escape from those obstructions which prejudice the expeditious transaction of public business and exercise a depressing influence over my whole charge.

From Captain JOHN CAMPBELL, Executive Engineer, Jackatallah; to the Right Honorable Lord HARRIS, Governor of Madras, dated 26th July 1858.

MY LORD,

On the 5th October 1854, eighteen months prior to the formation of the new D. P. W. Captain Francis who had from 1852, the *separate* charge of these works was removed to the Division, while I assumed under him the executive charge. This arrangement by which it was intended to continue in his hands, the supervision of the works he had initiated, was by all parties considered a happy one, as he was fully acquainted with the working details, with which I was then a comparative stranger, having only served on these works as his immediate assistant for 9 months prior to his removal.

2. On assuming this sub-executive charge the Estimates stood at 5 Lacs and the Plans were contained on 2 pieces of paper. They now cover about 100 sheets of finished drawings, and the sanctioned Estimates read 16 Lacs. Those now under preparation for additional buildings will probably amount to some 10 lacs more. Every Plan and Estimate has been prepared by myself, though the duty devolves according to regulation on the District Engineer in all cases except when Government may see fit to appoint a special officer.

C. O. page 582, para. 2.

3. Up to the end of 1857 (long prior to which owing to the necessary absence of Captain Francis on other duties the whole working responsibility had exclusively devolved upon myself) I was allowed the privilege of corresponding direct with the Military Board and Central Office, but in December of that year I was peremptorily ordered never again to address the Central Office, except through the District Engineeer, and the privilege of direct correspondence has never been restored. The working of this system has been vexatious and harassing as I shall shew by a few extracts of dates and subjects below, in addition to the evidence elicited in your Lordships presence on the 22nd instant.

Chief Engineer No. 6232 of 24th December 1857.

4. My Plans and Estimates (which have frequently been pirated by others) go through the District Engineer to the Superintending Engineer, who in turn sends them to the Chief Engineer (the three opinions it is observable being necessarily framed on my own Statements) and by the time they reach me again, they are overlaid by such a mass of correspondence, involving loss of time which to me reads very like loss of money) that I scarce feel disposed ever again to hazzard a suggestion. Notwithstanding all these Checks there is not on record with exception of the Hospital and Waterloo Bridge, a single plan, specification, or estimate which has not emanated from or been in toto remodelled by myself. I may notice here the impossible data on which the Barracks estimates were framed, for instance the flooring is put down @ 75 per square, while I have had to raise it to 140 Rupees which will barely cover the cost.

5. The wearisome preparation of all figured Statements and returns in *duplicate* for the District Office (which has twice my strength with half my work) has thrown upon me such a mass of additional writing and correspondence that while the Engineer file inwards for the 3 years ending 31st October 1857, numbers only 711 letters, the last 9 months alone shew 769 letters,

which have thus increased from 20 to 85 per month! To get through this additional work eithe a larger establishment must be entertained which the estimates will not bear, or the work mus be left undone. One of my best Overseers and myself are now nailed to the office desk fror 8 A M till 2 P M daily, while thus engrossed preparing figured Statements of work performed, am making a futile attempt to economise the daily expenditure of 1,500 Rupees, but I feel I an chasing a shadow while the substance is slipping through my fingers and so little time has th District Engineer for attention to the letters sumbitted that I have been desired more than one during the last few weeks to address the letters to a Clerk in his office, when not of a very ur gent nature.

6. Captain Morgan the Active Assistant placed at my disposal by your Lordship has bee withdrawn from my works without my consent being even aske at a time when straining every nerve to increase my expenditur and work up to the very highest power I can put on. The i effects of his removal will I fear soon be apparent.

Extract Minutes Consultation 3046 of 12th November 1855.

7. It has been ruled that Contracts may be forced upon me by the District Engineer (a Officer perfectly unacquainted with the language or customs o the country and who has never had the opportunity of examinin my works) against my will. I am held personally responsible fc the work done by the Contractor, while the sole referee the District Engineer cannot possibly eve see the work under construction. It was actually made a charge against me the other day in a Official Memorandum from the District Engineer to the Central Office that I had expressed m intention of appealing to your Lordship on this very subject of Contracts ; in answer to my strongl worded, respectful but useless remonstrance I was with indignity told, that more pliant mean would be found if I refused to accept Contracts at the hands of th District Engineer ; I never refused to accept them, yet a sense of dut was treated as if it had been recusancy. Reasoning like this my Lord must as you are wel aware, upset all independent expression of opinion, few Officers will be found to risk an appe for fear of the consequences. Holding the very responsible position I do on one of the larges works in the Presidency, I am unhappily placed at present on the same footing as an Office whose expenditure for a month is less than mine for a day, why the whole restrictively sanctione estimate of the Coimbatore District for this year is less than mine on the Barracks for 6 months My Lord while free to ruin the works as far as all check or control over my proceedings go, beyond what can be derived from a sheet of figures, I am so trammeled that I am powerless fo good.

No. 238 of 12th May 1858, from Superintending Engineer to District Engineer.

No 238 of 12th May 1854.

8. I do not complain of over-work, but I do loudly complain of my time being so frittered away by a system which does nothing but retard progress, destroy self respect and self reliance and leaves me without either power or influence among my own people, I cannot even draw a Collectors bill of which I require several in the month, without applying through the District Engineer, who of course is necessarily absent in different quarters of his Division. Some of thes vexatious delays may be best explained by the following real cases of current obstruction of District

31st March 1858.—I apply through District Engineer to raise Barrack Verandas and get n*Reply till* 11*th May.*

6th May.—I request authority to discontinue burning Segoor lime explaining that while it is o bad quality I have by order against my own will spent 3,700 Rupees on i while I have upwards of 3,000 tons of first-rate stone of my own on hand

No reply at all (but I have stopped it myself.)

22nd May.—I apply through District Engineer for an Accountant General's bill on Madras valu 916-14, and get no reply *till* 6*th July* so that I cannot close my cash accounts for June.

26th May.—I apply for Dft. on Mysore and get *no reply till* 6*th July* so cannot close my cash accounts for June, 7 letters passed on this subject.

27th May.—4 letters pass with District Engineer about a tin man who presented a petition complaining that I would not employ him to glaze the Barracks windows. I was actually called upon to explain.

28th May.—I report to District Engineer on Jackatalla lime with reference to discontinuance of Segoor experiment.

No reply at all.

28th May.—I apply direct for sanction to lay Asphalte in the Married Quarters explaining that I cannot saw my girders for flooring till I get an answer (ordered to send my application through District Engineer.) I apply through District Engineer for asphalte sanction.

No reply at all.

29th May.—I apply to District Engineer for authority to assist Commissariat Department *in their application* to make up Camp furniture emergently required.

No reply at all.

1st June.—I apply through District Engineer to Central Office for their price of Tar and Pitch District Engineer sends back declining to forward my letter till I send him a copy of Central Office t ender of Tar and Pitch, I send it, and consequently get.

No reply till July.

1st June.—I send through District Engineer as requested by Central Office a list of books urgently required for European Overseers Library.

No reply at all.

4th June.—I s[illegible]d to District Engineer an estimate and contract for a market shed for the new Bazaar at Jackatalla, within the amount specified by the Commissary General.

No reply at all.

12th June.—I apply through District Engineer for authority to lodge 800 Rupees a month at Metapollium in Civil Custody for the payment of my Limestone Quarriers.

No reply at all.

18th June.—I apply through District Engineer for authority to lay down an Asphalte floor in the Vestry and temporary Church, the floor being so wet that the Chaplain cannot officiate there.

No reply at all.

19th June.—1. I am called on for a duplicate inspection return for May.

2. I write to say I have no inspection return for May.

3. I am ordered to send a blank one in duplicate.

4. 5. 6. Blank returns in duplicate with letter.

7. The District Engineer returns the blank duplicate inspection lists with a long letter desiring me to fill them up.

8. I send them back again to District Engineer, having no possible entries to make, and here the matter apparently rests, after 8 letters have passed.

9. Before availing myself of your Lordships kind permission to write, I thought it better to ascertain the views entertained by the Chief Engineer on the main subject of my letter and Colonel Fabers very words are " that there is no necessary or even natural connexion between " the general project for the Jackatalla Military buildings and Cantonments, and the District " Engineer of Coimbatore ; that the subordination of the Executive Engineer to the local De- " partmental head has many disadvantages, uncompensated by one single benefit, since Captain " Francis' removal, that direct correspondence with the Revenue and Magisterial authorities is " indispensable for efficiency and the maintenance of adequate power and influence, and that if " ever there were a case to make the introduction of a special executive apparatus, in direct de- " pendance upon the Central Office and in communication with the Collector as the local head of " a branch of the Public Works, thoroughly appropriate and effective, it is the case of the Exe- " cutive Engineer at Jackatalla, but it ought to be a part of the charge that the Superintending " Engineer of the Southern Circle, should have his attention particularly called to."

10. For the above reasons then my Lord, I do most anxiously trust, your Lordship will be so good as cause me to be in terms of Government orders, Gazetted on the more favorable footing of a *special* Executive Engineer, unconnected with and not subordinate to the District Engineer, an arrangement fully provided for by the orders in the margin, which would place me solely under the Central office and thereby materially facilitate the transaction of Government business.

C. O. pages 583 and 584, paras. 15 and 16.

No. 123. ORDER THEREON, No. 1647; dated 17th August 1858.

1. In his letter to the Right Honorable the Governor, Captain Campbell, Executive Engineer, Jackatallah, requests that he may be relieved from the control of the District Engineer of Coimbatore, and be placed under the immediate orders of the Central Office as a special Executive Engineer, as provided in paras. 15 and 16 of the Code published at page 583 of the Circular Order Book.

2. The grounds on which Captain Campbell urges this arrangement are briefly the following, he states that the sanctioned estimates for the works under his Superintendence amount already to 16 lacs, while those under preparation for additional buildings will probably aggregate 10 lacs more. He observes that the plans and estimates for the extensive works under construction have been prepared by himself, and that up to a recent period (December 1857) he had been allowed the privilege of corresponding direct with the late Military Board and the Central Office. He adverts to the needless occupation of a large portion of his time, and that of his best Overseer, in the preparation of figured statements and returns in duplicate for the District Engineer, and cites an instance in which he was deprived of the services of his Assistant, at a time when he was making strenuous exertions to turn to the best advantage the means placed at his disposal. He points to the ill effects of the District Engineer being allowed to compel him to accept contracts for works which that Officer has never had the opportunity of examining, while he himself is held personally responsible for the work executed by the Contractor. He represents that while his position as the Officer in charge of one of the largest works in the Presidency, entails on him a heavy responsibility, he is placed on the same footing as an Officer whose expenditure for a month is less than his for a day; and he adds that such an arrangement can have no other effect than to retard progress, destroy self-respect and self-reliance, and leave him without power or influence among his people. He details several instances in which references made by him to the District Engineer, have either not been answered at all or have been replied to so long after they were made as to cause serious embarrassment in the execution of his duties.

3. The Government observe that Captain Campbell is employed on a single and particular duty, over which it is practically impossible for the District Engineer, who resides on the plains and is unacquainted with the works under construction, to exercise any useful superintendence. The duty too is a peculiar one, as not being in the usual line of an Engineer's calling in this country, and as being altogether removed from the ordinary business of the District; while Captain Campbell's long and thorough knowledge of it, points him out as the person best qualified to carry it into execution. The Government are therefore convinced, from what has been represented, that Captain Campbell's is a case in which the appointment of a special Executive Engineer, as authorized by paras. 15 and 16 of the Code,* may very properly be made; as it has been fully shown that to continue the office on its present footing, would lead only to much delay and embarrassment in the execution of the work. Resolved therefore that Captain Campbell be appointed a special Executive Engineer, that he be withdrawn from the control of the District Engineer of Coimbatore, and instructed to correspond direct with the Collector and the Central Office; the Superintendign Engineer of the Southern Circlehaving his attention drawn to his Progress and other reports.

Circular Order Book page 583.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Right Honorable
Lord Harris
Governor of Madras

My Lord

On the 5th October 1854 eighteen months prior to the formation of the new D.P.W. Captain Francis who had from 1852 the separate charge of these works was removed to the Division, which I assumed under him the Executive charge. This arrangement by which it was intended to continue in his hands, the supervision of the works he had instituted, was by all parties considered a happy one, as he was fully acquainted with the working details, with which I was then a comparative stranger, having only served on these works as his immediate Assistant for 9 months prior to his removal.

2. On assuming this Subexecutive charge the Estimates stood at 5 Lacs and the Plans were contained on 2 pieces of paper. They now cover about 100 sheets of finished drawings and the sanctioned Estimates reach 16 Lacs. More are under preparation for additional buildings which probably amount to some 10 Lacs more. Every plan & Estimate has been prepared by myself, as the duty devolves according to regulation on the District Engineer in all cases except when Government may see fit to appoint a special officer.

6. Page 582 para 2.

3. Up to the end of 1857 (long prior to which owing to the necessary absence of Captain Francis on

other duties the whole working responsibility had exclusively devolved upon myself) I was allowed the privilege of communicating direct with the Military Board and the Central office; but in December of that year I was peremptorily ordered never again to address the Central office, except thro' the District Engineer, and the privilege of direct correspondence has never been restored. The working of this system has been vexatious and hampering as I shall shew by a few extracts of dates & subjects below, in addition to the evidence elicited in my Lordship's presence on the 22d inst.

Chief Engineer No 6232 of 24 December 1857

4. My Plans and Estimates (which have frequently been puzzled by others) go through the District Engineer to the Superintending Engineer, who in turn sends them to the Chief Engineer; the three opinions is observable being frequently framed on my own statements; during the time they reach me again, they are overlaid by such a mass of correspondence (involving loss of time which time reads very like loss of money) that I discover I feel disposed ever again to hazard a suggestion. Notwithstanding all these checks there is not one work with exception of the Hospital and Waterloo Bridge, a single plan Specification, or Estimate which has not emanated from or been remodelled by myself. I may notice here the impossible data on which the Barracks Estimates were framed, for instance the flooring is put down @ 7/. per square, while I have had to price it to 14/ rupees which will barely cover the cost.

3

5. The wearisome preparation of all figured statements and returns in duplicate for the District office (which has twice my strength with half my work) has thrown upon me such a mass of additional writing and correspondence that while the Engineer file inwards for the 3 years ending 31 October 57 numbers only 711 letters, the last 9 months alone shew 769 letters, which have thus increased from 20 to 85 per month! To get through this additional work either a larger establishment must be entertained which the Estimates will not bear, or the work must be left undone. The Overseers and myself are now in addition to the office desk from 8 am till 3 pm daily. With thus engrossed preparing figured statements of work performed, I am making a futile attempt to economise the daily expenditure of 1500 rupees, but I feel I am chasing a shadow, while the substance is slipping through my fingers. And so little time has the District Engineer for attention to the letters submitted that I have been cleared [illegible]

three during the last few weeks to address to Lt Wilkins
a clerk in his office, when not of a very
urgent nature.

6. Captain Morgan the Active Assistant
placed at my disposal by your Lordship
has been withdrawn from my works without
my consent being even asked, at a time
when straining every nerve to increase
my expenditure and work up to the very
highest power I can position. Be it
effects of his removal will soon
be apparent.

7. It has been ruled that Contracts may
be forced upon me by the District Engineer
(an officer perfectly unacquainted with
the language or customs of the country
and who has never had the opportunity
of examining my works) against my
will. I am held personally responsible
for the work done by the Contractor, while
the rule decreed the District Engineer cannot
possibly ever see the work under Construction.
I was actually made a charge against
me the other day in an official Memorandum
from the District Engineer to the Central
office, that I had expressed my intention
of appealing to your Lordship on this
very subject of Contracts; in answer
to my simply words, respectful, but
helpless remonstrance I was met with

Dm-L 3046 of 12 Nov 1865

No 238 of 12 May 1858 from Supt Engineer to District Engineer to Fraser No 6

No 230 of 12 May 1858

indignity told, that more pliant men would
be found if I refused to accept Contracts at
the hands of the District Engineer; I never
refused to accept them, yet a sense of
duty was treated as if it had been
recusancy. Reasoning like this my Lords
must as you are well aware, upset all
independent expression of opinion, and
officers will be found to prefer an appeal
for fear of the consequences. Holding the
very responsible position I do on one of
the largest works in the Presidency, I am
unhappily placed at present on the same
footing as an officer whose expenditure
for a month is less than mine for a day.
Why the whole estimate for the Coimbatore District for this
year is less than mine in the Baramahl
for 6 months. My hand while free to
Direct the works as far as all check or control
over my proceedings go, beyond what can
be derived from a sheet of figures
I am to transmit, that I am powerless
in your hands.

8. I do not complain of over work, but I
do loudly complain of my time being
frittered away by a system which
does nothing but retard progress, destroy
self respect and self reliance, and
leaves me without either power

1858

28 May — I apply direct for sanction to lay Asphalte in the Married Quarters explaining that I cannot I can get no answer / Ordered based my application thro District Engineer. /
I apply through D Engr for Asphalte sanction.
No reply at all

29 May — I apply to D Engr for authority to put Commissariat Department on their application to make ab Camp furniture emergently required.
No reply at all.

1 June — I apply through D Engr to Central office for the price of Tar and pitch. D Engr send back declining to forward my letter but send him a copy of Central office tender of Tar and pitch. I send it and emergently get
No reply till July

1 June — I send through D Engr as requested by Central office a List of Books urgently required for European Overseers Library
No reply at all

4 June — I send to D Engr an estimate & Contract for a marble Chest for the new Bazaar at Mattra, which the Commissariat Department Engineer
No reply at all

12 June — I apply through D Engr for authority to lodge 800 rupees a month at Metapollium in Civil custody for the payment of my Limestone Quarriers
No reply at all

18 June — I apply through D Engr for authority to lay down an Asphalte floor in the Vestry of Temporary Church Pollon being so wet that the Chaplain cannot officiate there
No reply at all

19 June — 1. I am called on for a duplicate Inspection return for May
2. I write to say I have no inspection return for May
3. I am ordered to send a blank one in duplicate.
4.5.6. Blank returns in duplicate with B 3300

influences among my own people I cannot even draw a Collectors bill without I require several in the month, without applying thro the District Engineer, who of course is frequently absent in different Districts of his Division. Some of these explanations delays may be best explained by the following detail Cases of Current Obstruction of District

1858
31 March — I apply this District Engineer 6 Cane Kunaeh Verandahs and get no reply till 11 May.

6 May — I request authority to discontinue burning Lepers Lime explaining that while it is I lend Jemadar I have by order against my own will spent 370 rupees on it. While I have upwards of 3000 Rds of first rate stone of my own on hands.
No reply at all / but I have stopped Burning. /

22 May — I apply through D Engr for an Ass Generals bill on Madras value 916-4-0 and get no reply till 6th July so that I cannot close my Cash Accounts for June.

26 May — I apply for Off on Leave and get no reply till 6 July so cannot close my Cash Accounts for June - 7 letters passed on this subject.

27 May — I letter pass with D Engr about a Tin man who prevented a petition complaining that I would not employ him to glaze the Barrack windows. I was actually called upon to explain.

28 May — I report to D Engr on Jail Mutallee Lines with reference to Discontinuance of Lepers Experiment
No reply at all

7. The District Engineer returns the blank duplicate inspection Rolls with a long letter desiring me to fill them up.

8. I send them back again to District Engineer, having no possible authority to make, and leave the matter apparently exactly as after the Letter was received.

9. Before awaiting appeal of your Lordships Third principle to note, I thought it better to ascertain the views entertained by the Chief Engineer on the main subject of my letter and Colonel Fabers very words are "that there is no necessary or even natural connexion between the General project for "the Fort Malden Military Buildings & Entrenchments, "and the District Engineer of Coimbatore; "that the subordination of the Executive "Engineer to the local departmental heads "has many disadvantages, incompensated "by one single benefit since Captain "Flemings removal, that direct correspondence "with the Revenue and Magisterial authorities "is indispensable for efficiency and the "maintenance of adequate power "and influence, and that if ever there "were a case to make the introduction "of a Special Executive Apparatus, in "direct dependence upon the Central office "and in communication with the Collector "as the local head of a branch of the "P.W. through appropriate and effectual

"It is the case of the Executive Engineer at Port Malden, "but it ought to be a part of the charge that the "Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle, "should have his attention particularly called "to"

10. For the above reasons have my dear, I do most anxiously trust, your Lordship will be so good as cause me to be [illegible] of Government orders, Gazetted on the more favourable footing of a Special Executive Engineer, unconnected with and not subordinate to the District Engineer, an arrangement fully provided for by the rules in the margin, which would place me solely under the Central office and thereby materially facilitate the transaction of Government business.

G.O. pages 583 and 584, pages 15 and 16

I have the honor to be
My dear
Your Lordships Most obedient
& Most humble Servant
J. Mumbleth Captain
& Right Cavalry
Executive Engineer
Fort Malden

Fort Malden
26 July 1858

To
The Right Honorable
Lord Harris
Governor of Madras
&c &c &c

Captain Lambkin
Executive Engineer
& Asst Artificers

Seeks to be separated from
District of Lombalais & be
made a Special Executive
Engineer for certain special
duties etc. & subsidiary
by Colonel Fabre.

26 July 1858
Middleburn

could merely be Abstract
Lein in a Deficient Jo
Lehow. Jo no good Jen
2. Jose & entailing deale
2 Yearbook deal of Bedrahon
Labour

Lord H. spkd to
me some days ago about Sydney
what was done about. Sydney
Smith's expectations &c &c
acquainted. He shewed me
some time ago the Declaration
of the Officers of the
Chamber of
Commerce
Wks

(12)

My dear Percy — I enclose a letter from Major Campbell to Lord Harris, urging the expediency of making him a "Special Executive Engineer" as provided in paras 15 & 16 of the Code — Page 583 of Cer. Ord. Book. I had some conversation with his Lordship about it, previous to his Illness. At first he was disinclined, even though Taber had recommended it. He seemed to think it might be drawn into a precedent. I however urged that if it ever was intended to appoint a Special Executive, this was the very case. It is one of particular duty on which Major C. is employed, & one of very great importance. It is also a peculiar duty, not in the usual line of an Engineer's calling in this country. The Superintendence of the District Engineer is practically a farce. Unless he lives on the Hills (& it is a bad excuse for so doing) he cannot know much

about it. & Campbell is now more an fait at his work than any District Engineer in the Department. It is of great consequence that he should not be hampered & delayed by references. I do not think any other Officer could make out a case at all like this & should be quite safe to act on Campbell's applications. He should have direct communication with the Collector & the Supdg Engineer who also have his attention drawn to the Progress & their Periodical Reports.

I saw Lord Harris to day: He had been very forcibly by the doctors refusing to let him see me, to all most. He was quite clear & collected, & among other things said that Letter of Campbell's had been on his mind, & wished to know what I proposed to do. I reminded him that he had attended to my view of the case, & by his permission I would take the Letter from his Table, & send it to you with a few words, & inform Colonel Campbell what I had done. He approved of this & I hope he will not declare himself any more about it. Perhaps it will be best to ask Crawford if he has any objections to offer, & if so let me know; Whenever of the members of Council think fit, a draft can be prepared in

The Officer & Corps
11 Rum & take
Col. relapse

No. 1647.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 17th August 1858.

Read the following letter from Captain Campbell.

Encloses for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor his appeal for a separation from the District of Coimbatore.

(Here enter 26th July 1858.)

P1. In his letter to the Right Honorable the Governor, Captain Campbell, Executive Engineer Tackentally, requests that he may be relieved from the control of the District Engr of Coimbatore, and be placed under the immediate orders of the Central Office as a Special Executive Engineer, as provided in paras 15 and 16 of the Code published at page 583 of the Circular order Book.

2 The grounds on which Captain

Captain Campbell urges this arrangement ~~which he~~ ~~states~~, are briefly the following. He states that the sanctioned estimates for the works under his superintendence amount already to 16 lacs, while those under preparation for additional buildings will probably aggregate 10 lacs more. He observes that the plans and estimates for the extensive works under construction have been prepared by himself, and that up to a recent period (December 1857) he had been allowed the privilege of corresponding direct with the late Military Board and the Central Office. He adverts to the needless occupation of a large portion

of

of his time, and that of his best overseer, in the preparation of figured Statements and returns in duplicate for the District Engineer, and cites an instance in which he was deprived of the services of his assistant, at a time when he was making strenuous exertions to turn to the best advantage the means placed at his disposal. He points to the ill effects of the District Engineer being allowed to compel him to accept contracts for works which that officer has never had the opportunity of examining, while he himself is held personally responsible for the work executed by the Contractor. He represents that while his position as the officer in charge of one of the

largest

largest works in the Presidency, entails on him a heavy responsibility, he is placed on the same footing as an officer whose expenditure for a month is less than his for a day; and he holds that such an arrangement can have no other effect than to retard progress, destroy self-respect and self-reliance, and leave him without power or influence among his people. The details several instances in which references made by him to the District Engineer, have either not been answered at all or have been replied to so long after they were made as to cause serious embarrassment ~~inconvenience and delay~~ in the execution of his duties. And lastly he quotes, in support

5

of the arrangement which he advocates, an extract from a letter from Colonel Faber, expressing his concurrence in its propriety.

3 The Government observe that Captain Campbell is employed on a single and particular duty, over which it is practically impossible for the District Engineer, who resides on the plains and is unacquainted with the works under construction, to exercise any useful Superintendence. The duty too is a peculiar one, as not being in the usual line of an Engineer's calling in this Country, and as being altogether removed from the ordinary business of the District; while Captain Campbell's long and

and thorough knowledge of it, points him out as the person best qualified to carry it into execution. The Government are therefore convinced, from what has been represented, that Captain Campbell's is a case in which the appointment of a Special Executive Engineer, as authorized by paras 15 and 16 of the Code, may very properly be made; as it has been fully shown that to continue the office on its present footing, would lead only to much delay, and embarrassment in the execution of the work. Resolved therefore that Captain Campbell be appointed a Special Executive Engineer, that he be withdrawn from the control of the District Engineer of Coimbatore, and instructed to correspond directly with the Collector and the Central Office; the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle having his attention drawn to his Progress and other reports.

x Circular Order Book page 583.

To Copies Offg. Chief Engr. Civil Dept. 15
1 — Civil Auditor
1 — Captain J. Campbell.

Public Works 1858 Dept.
Cons. 17th August

No. 1647.

Extract Mins. of Cons.
Dd 17th Augt 1858

From the Offg. Chief Engr.
of 23d Sept. 58 & No 2283 with Corr.
from Chief Engr. Dd 4th Febry 58 & No 351.

Under the circumstances represented by Captain Campbell Executive Engineer Sachabullah would be appointed that Officer a Special Executive Engineer with power to correspond direct with the Collector and the Central Office and withdrawn all control of the Divisional Engineer of that District.

No. 1224/28.

C12 Augt 1858